

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 have been canceled, without prejudice to refiling. New claims 30-35 are added. No new matter is added.

Applicants note that an amendment to the claims submitted during the International Phase; and a Preliminary Amendment submitted with the entry into the National Phase, have not been entered into the present application, as evidenced by the restriction requirement set forth by the Examiner.

In order to clarify the pending claims, Applicants have canceled the pending claims, and submitted new claims 30-35. Claims 30-33 correspond to originally filed, and amended, Claims 1-4. Claims 34-35 correspond to Claims 28 and 29, as presented in the Preliminary Amendment of January 14, 2000.

All presently pending claims fall within Restriction Group I, which group is elected by Applicants for examination.

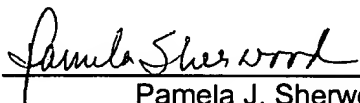
CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a Telephone Conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, she is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number MEWE-010.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
Pamela J. Sherwood, Ph.D.
Registration No. 36,677

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP
200 Middlefield Road, Suite 200
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Telephone: (650) 327-3400
Facsimile: (650) 327-3231